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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Fumiaki ARAI et al.

Serial No.: 10/060,458

Group Art Unit 1762

Filed : January 30, 2002

Examiner F. Parker

For : THERMOSENSITIVE STENCIL PAPER AND  
METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

I, MASANORI RIMOTO, declare that:

1. I am the same person who executed a previous Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 on October 4, 2004, in the above-identified application. I am a named joint inventor in the above-identified application, and I am also a named joint inventor in U.S. patent No. 5,843,560 (Ohta et al.).

2. In Experiment (2) set forth at pp. 2-3 of my aforementioned previous Declaration, the emulsion was constituted of an external (continuous) phase of silicone oil and an internal (discontinuous) phase of THF + water + polyvinyl butyral. The coating layer formed in Experiment (2) was not porous because the resin was not present in the external (continuous) phase. In order to form a porous resin layer, the resin needs to be present in the external (continuous) phase.

3. Stated more generally, in the method of the invention claimed in the above-identified application, for producing a thermosensitive stencil paper comprising a thermoplastic resin

film and a porous resin layer provided thereon, it is necessary that the resin be present in the continuous (oil) phase and not in the discontinuous (water) phase of the water-in-oil emulsion of a resin. The preparation of such a water-in-oil emulsion, in which the resin is present in the continuous (oil) phase and not in the discontinuous (water) phase, is described in the specification of the above-identified application, e.g., at page 18, lines 6-12; in Example 1 at pages 30-31; in Example 4 at pages 32-33; and in original claim 12. As stated in claim 12, "a non-solvent with respect to said resin is added dropwise to said resin solution with stirring to prepare said water-in-oil emulsion of said resin." At page 12, lines 3-6, in the specification, it is explained that the "pores are formed [in the porous resin layer] as the water droplets contained in the coated porous resin layer formation coating liquid are evaporated." Experiment (2) of my aforesaid previous Declaration shows that pores were not formed when the resin is in the discontinuous phase and not in the continuous phase, whereas the Examples of the specification show that pores are formed when the resin is in the continuous phase.

4. If the silicone mold release agent referred to in Ohta et al. '560 at col. 4, lines 49-51, were added to the resin layer formation coating liquid therein to serve as a stick-preventing agent in accordance with the description in Ohta et al. '560 at col. 4, lines 16-17, so as to form an emulsion, the obtained emulsion would be an oil-in-water emulsion wherein the silicone oil is dispersed in the water phase, not a water-in-oil emulsion.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the

like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Masanori Rimoto  
MASANORI RIMOTO

Date: Nov. 5, 2004